



California State Fire Marshal **CODE INTERPRETATION**

Date Issued	02-05-04	Interpretation	03-006 Revised
Topic	Responsibility for Smoke Control System Design		
Code Section(s)	§905, California Building Code (2001 ed)		
Requested by	Byron Graves RTS Systems 5726 Sonoma Dr. Pleasanton, CA		

1. ***Is the fire alarm contractor responsible for the design of smoke control systems?***

No. The mechanical engineer is responsible for the design of smoke control systems. The fire alarm contractor is responsible for the design and installation of the smoke detection system which is required to activate the smoke control system, as specified by the mechanical engineer, architect or fire protection engineer.

2. ***Is the fire alarm contractor required to have the stamp of a Fire Protection Engineer (FPE) on the fire alarm drawings when submitting and installing a fire alarm life safety system for a high-rise building as a design build contractor.***

No. Section 6737.3 of the California Business and Professions Code allows licensed fire alarm contractors to design fire alarm systems that are installed by their company. Neither state law nor regulations require a stamp of an FPE on the submitted drawings. A fire alarm contractor may only design fire alarm systems for another contractor when the plans are approved and stamped by a professional engineer prior to installation.